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THE HEALTH OF LETCHWORTH

1971

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LETCHWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members as at 31st December, 1971

Chairman of the Council

Councillor C.W. Sax

Vice-Chairman of the Council

Councillor W. Miller, J.P.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee

Councillor D. Kitchiner

Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee

Councillor T. Morton

Councillors

Mrs. Gavin Jones
D.A. Griffiths
M.J.E. Smith, B.A.

LETCHWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health

James D. Hall, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.) D.P.H., M.F.C.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector

R.H. Mann, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Kenneth A. Bennett, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

PREFACE

Public Health Department.
Town Hall,
LETCHWORTH,
Herts.

To the Chairman and Members of the Letchworth Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1971.

The population of Letchworth again increased and again this was due to movement into the town rather than increase in births. The birthrate continued to decrease. The number of illegitimate births increased.

The infant mortality rate showed a slight but not significant increase although again the number of stillbirths decreased being considerably lower than the rest of the county and the country as a whole.

The death rate from all ages and from all causes remained considerably lower than the remainder of the country.

Again no deaths were caused by tuberculosis and there were no serious outbreaks of epidemic disease. The state of the public health in Letchworth remained most satisfactory. No maternal deaths in pregnancy and childbirth occurred.

The Health Education programme was greatly expanded during 1971.

A working party was set up during the year to discuss ways in which general health education could be further developed and a monthly clinic display programme formulated. The working party has met at regular intervals and allowed increased communication.

There has been increased contact with Teacher Centres and this resulted in a two day conference. Health education was also featured in the North Hertfordshire In-Service Programme for teachers and a full day on health education is planned for 1972. In addition various discussion groups within the teacher centres have been held on the subject of drugs and venereal diseases.

Advice has been given to schools on health education within the school curriculum and a special programme for fifth and sixth formers was introduced and evaluated. This was concerned with the attitudes and behaviour affecting health.

Two experiments into motivation of mothers to accept health educa were carried out as a pilot study in maternal attitudes.

Publicity campaigns on venereal disease, smoking and health, mental health were carried out in a number of factories. As a result, talks were given on subjects of personal hygiene, food handling (in conjunction with the public health inspector), venereal disease and mental health.

Talks have been given to various groups including Young Wives, Women's Clubs, the elderly, St John Ambulance Association, Parent Teacher Associations, Youth Clubs, etc. Topics included health and hygiene, accident prevention, drug addiction (in the form of panels)smoking and health, mental health and venereal disease. There has been increased involvement with the Home Safety Committees for the area.

An anti-smoking clinic was started during the year as a pilot experiment with a view to offering a service for general practitioners to refer patients who wish to give up smoking basically on health grounds. It was decided to run this clinic for one year in alternate months and this project was evaluated through the year. In view of its sucess on a group basis it was decided to run a pilot clinic for overweight women, again to offer a service for general practitioners and hospital consultants to refer patients who needed to reduce weight and in the case of consultants particularly prior to operation. One feature has been that the group referred are mostly middle-aged and upwards and many aspects of health education have been discussed within the clinic setting. The demand has been overwhelming and has necessitated establishing a second clinic to relieve the waiting list with the Stevenage area and it is anticipated that a third clinic at Letchworth and a fourth in Hitchin will be necessary.

It is my view that the future role of health education lies in group and community projects. In many areas voluntary groups are providing varied activities appropriate to particular needs. Health education has a major role within these groups and some attempt at do-ordination of local authority and voluntary agencies on all matters of health education would be desirable. There is at the present time a mutual lack of awareness of roles which has created duplication of effort.

I would like to express my thanks to all the public health and health and welfare staff in Letchworth, including those concerned with administration for their help and co-operation during the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

J.D. Hall

Medical Officer of Health

Divisional Health Office,
Bedford Road,
Hitchin, Hertfordshire.

Telephone No: Hitchin 50411

SECTION 'A' - LETCHWORTH

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	5,083
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid 1971	31,300
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1971	9,950
Rateable Value	£2,609,465
Net product of 1p. rate	£25,962

(b) PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Registrar General's estimate population for mid 1971 reveals an overall increase of 1,000. The natural increase of population, i.e. excess of births over deaths for the year, was 187.

LETCHWORTH VITAL STATISTICS 1971

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
LIVE BIRTHS:			
Total	229	235	464
Legitimate	211	215	426
Illegitimate	18	20	38
Live Birth Rate (uncorrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	14.8
Live Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 population	-	-	14.4
Illegitimate live births percentage of total live births		-	8.0
STILL-BIRTHS:			
Total	1	2	3
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	-	-	6.0
Total live and still-births	230	237	467
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE:			
Total	8	2	10
Legitimate	6	2	8
Illegitimate	2	-	2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births	-	-	22
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	-	19
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		-	53
Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	11
Early Neo-Natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	-	-	11
Perinatal mortality rate (still-birth and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births		-	17
MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ABORTION:			
Number of deaths	-	-	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	-	-	-
TOTAL DEATHS:	146	131	277
Death Rate (uncorrected)	-	-	8.8
Death Rate (corrected)	-	-	9.4
Natural increases of population	-		187
Overall increases of population			1,000

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1971

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	1	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	4	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	15	4	19
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	-	3
Leukaemia	3	-	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	18	20
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	2	-	2
Diabetes Mellitus	2	2	4
Avitaminoses, etc.	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous system	1	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1	2
Hypertensive Disease	2	4	6
Ischaemic Heart Disease	39	24	63
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	7	10
Cerebrovascular Disease	12	15	27
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	7	13
Pneumonia	9	12	21
Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	4	11
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2	3
Peptic Ulcer	2	1	3
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	3	-	3
Congenital Anomalies	2	1	3
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2	-	2
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	1	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	1	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	3	7
All Other Accidents	6	5	11
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	1	3
All other External Causes	1	-	1
Total all Causes	146	131	277

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	8	2	10
1 - 4 years	1	1	2
5 - 14 years	1	-	1
15 - 24 years	4	2	6
25 - 34 years	3	1	4
35 - 44 years	4	1	5
45 - 54 years	11	6	17
55 - 64 years	28	13	41
65 - 74 years	40	35	75
75 and over	46	70	116
All causes ...	146	131	277

POPULATION STATISTICS

	District 1971 Letchworth U.D.C.	North Hertfordshire Division	Hertfordshire	England and Wales
Population	31,300	168,030	930,390	48,815,000
Live Births (Crude) Live Births (corrected)	14.8 14.4	17.2	15.1 14.2	16.0 16.0
Death Rate (All causes, Crude) Death Rate (All causes, Corrected)	8.8 9.4.	7.7	9.0 10.2	11.6 11.6
Infective and Parasitic Diseases - excluding Tuberculosis, but including Syphillis and other V.D.	0.00	0.01	0.04	*
Tuberculosis: Respiratory Other forms	 0.00 0.00	 0.01) 0.00)	0.01	*
Cancer: Lung and Bronchus Other	 0.60 1.56	 0.48) 1.34)	1.4	*
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous system	0.06	0.08	1.22	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	3.86	3.59	2.7	*
Respiratory Diseases	1.15	0.83	1.3	*
Maternal Mortality	0.00	0.00	0.2	*
Infantile Mortality	22.0	19.6	15.1	18.0
Neo Natal Mortality	11.0	14.4	10.8	12,0
Early Neo Natal Mortality	11.0	12.4	8.6	10.0
Perinatal Mortality	17.0	21.8	18.3	22.0
Still-births	6.0	9.5	9.9	12.0

* Not available

SECTION 'B'

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN LETCHWORTH

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Care of Mothers and Young Children - Section 22 - Letchworth

Ante-Natal Booking Clinics

The completion of the attachment of midwives to groups of general practitioners made ante-natal booking sessions at some clinics unnecessary and ante-natal cases were seen at general practitioners' sugeries.

Attendances:

	No. of patients who attended - 1971	No. of attendances 1971
Letchworth G.P. Surgeries	219	1.331

Ante-Natal Instruction Classes

Ante-natal instruction classes are important, not only in their teaching of relaxation exercises but in the opportunity they afford for the general instruction of nursing mothers.

Clinic	No. of attendances - 1971
Letchworth	310

Family Planning Clinic

The policy of the County Council in regard to family planning is the utilization of the Family Planning Association as the principal agency in the provision of these services. The Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire Branch Organising Secretary, Mrs. K. Arger, has kindly provided the figures for this report.

Sessions:

Hitchin	Divisonal Health Office, Bedford Road,	-	Tuesday afternoon Wednesday evening Thursday morning
Letchworth	Health Centre Nevells Road	-	Monday evening
Stevenage	Trotts Hill Clinic	-	Monday morning Tuesday afternoon Friday morning
	Peartree Health Annexe	-	Wednesday morning
	Lodge Farm Health Annexe	-	Thursday morning
	County Health Centre, Southgate.	-	Thursday evening

1971.

	No. of New Patients	Total No. of Attendances
HITCHIN	344	3,294
LETCHWORTH	205	1,705
STEVENAGE	660	7,762

Infant Welfare Clinics

County Health Centre, Nevells Road, Letchworth	Tuesday 2-4 p.m. Thursday 2-4 p.m.	Health Visitor Dr. H.I.L. Hall
Community Centre, Middlefields, Letchworth	Monday 2-4 p.m.	Dr. H.I.L. Hall
Jackmans Estate Health Annexe, Radburn Way, Letchworth	Wednesday 2-4 pm. Friday 10-12noon	Dr. K.P. Bayles Health Visitor

Clinic	Children Born in 1971	Children Born in 1970	Children Born in 1966-69	No. of Attendances
Letchworth	455	314	295	9.897

CHILD HEALTH ASSESSMENT UNIT

Children born in	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967 and over
Letchworth	3	8	6	10	46

Premature Infants

A premature infant is one which weighs $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. or less at birth

PREMATURE INFANTS BORN IN 1971

	Born Alive			Stillbirths				Died under 28 days			No. Who survived 28 days		
District	At Home	In Hosp	Total	At Home	In Hosp	Total	No. Removed to Hosp after birth	At Home	In Hosp	Total	Born at Home	Born in Hosp	Total
Letch-worth	2	15 + 2 Twins	21	-	1	1		-	-	-	2	19	21

MIDWIFERY - SECTION 23 - LETCHWORTH

Ante Natal Instruction classes continue to be held [illegible] the actual ante-natal care and supervision is provided either in the G.P.'s surgery or in the home.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

Ante-natal visits to Expectant Mothers	1.414
Home Condition Reports for Hospitals	115
Ante-natal Session - General Practitioner	298
Deliveries - Home	121
Hospital Deliveries	345
Total - Live and Stillbirths	461
Early Hospital Discharge - 48 hours	19

HEALTH VISITING - SECTION 24 - LETCHWORTH

Four health visitors were employed during 1971 with the assistance of two State Registered Nurses who attended school and infant welfare clinic sessions

Child Welfare	Visits	4.524
Aged	Visits	417
Others	Visits	765
School Inspections	Sessions	327
Maternity and Child Welfare	Sessions	918

The Health Visitors continued to give talks on Health Education illustrated by films and film strips.

HOME NURSING - SECTION 25 - LETCHWORTH

The staff of the home nursing service in Letchworth at 31st December 1971 consisted of one full-time district nurse and one part-time district nurse; four full-time district nurse/midwives. The staff who are able to drive cars are either authorised to use their own vehicles on official business, or have been provided with county-owned motor vehilces.

The following are statistics relating to the work of the home nurses in 1971. It will be seen that they made 12,080 visits to 374 patients; 55 per cent of the patients nursed were aged 65 or over and they were visited on 6,813 occasions; 56 per cent of all visits, therefore, were made to this age group.

HOME NURSING

Classification	No. of cases attended	No. of visits made
Medical	262	7,483
Surgical	101	4,571
Tuberculosis	-	-
Others	11	26
TOTALS	374	12,080
Patients included above who were aged 65 or over	208	6,813
Children included above who were under 5	-	-

AMBULANCE SERVICE - SECTION 27 - NORTH HERTS

Number of patients conveyed	70,532
Number of Journeys	31,074
Total Mileage	454,555

Details of Journeys

Accidents	1,585
Sudden Illness	712
Removals	67,467
Maternity	768

The divisional area is served by the County Ambulance Station at St. George's Way, Stevenage. The Area Supervisor is Mr. J. Sweetman, who has kindly supplied the above statistics.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS: CARE AND AFTER-CARE - SECTION 28

Chest Clinic

Health Visiting:

Tuberculosis Household - Visits	350
B.C.G. Follow-up - Visits	39
Contacts - Visits	270
Non-Tuberculosis - Visits	138
New Cases	33
Contacts of New Cases	304
Heaf Negative	23

VENEREAL DISEASES

Number of New Cases in 1971

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL ALL VENEREAL CONDITIONS
Lister Hospital, Hitchin	204	120	324

The return from Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, has been omitted since it refers to the whole of the geographical county of Hertfordshire. These figures are, therefore, deficient by an unknown number in addition to the deficiencies caused by the treatment of patients from this area in London and elsewhere.

36% of the cases were in females.

CERVICAL CYTOLOGY - NORTH HERTS

CLINICS	No.1st Atten-dances	% Pop at risk attending	Negative		Positive		Unsatis-factory Specimens		Inflam-matory Changes		Tricho-monas Vaginalis		Monilia		Suspi-cious		Cell Irregu-larities	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
HITCHIN	502	i) 3 ii) 4	502	100.0	-	-	3	.6	310	62.0	28	5.5	13	2.5	-	-	-	-
LETCHWORTH	233	i) 3 ii) 3	233	100.0	-	-	2	.85	103	44.0	7	3.0	7	3.0	-	-	-	-
STEVENAGE	781	i) 8 ii) 11	781	100.0	-	-	1	.13	402	51.0	42	5.0	24	3.0	-	-	-	-
ROYSTON	77	i)0.53 ii) 2	77	100.0	-	-	-	-	69	89.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

CYTOLOGY CLINIC

"WELL WOMAN"CLINIC - JANUARY 1971

Hitchin	-	Every Wednesday a.m.
Letchworth	-	1st and 3rd Tuesdays a.m.
Stevenage	-	Thursday a.m. and Friday p.m.
Royston	-	Every third Wednesday in the month a.m.

From a total of 1,593 no positives were discovered.

In 1971 attendances at the Cytology Clinics showed a slight increase in Hitchin, Stevenage and Royston but were lower in Letchworth than in 1970.

Cervical Cytology continued:-

i) Aged 20 and over

ii) Aged 30 and over

Population at Risk Women (Sample Census 1966 - estimated error 1.6 per cent deficient.

Baldock U.D.	i)	2,080	Royston U.D.	i)	2,260
	ii)	1,740		ii)	1,860
Hitchin U.D.	i)	9,540	Stevenage U.D.	i)	16,200
	ii)	7,900		ii)	12,350
Letchworth U.D.	i)	9,480	Hitchin R.D.	i)	8,560
	ii)	7,950		ii)	7,200

TOTAL AT RISK i) 48,120
ii) 39,000

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 47

This section of the Act is concerned with the compulsory removal of persons in need of care from their homes on a Court Order, or in emergency on an Order signed by two medical practioners and a Justice of the Peace. Such a person may be removed to a county home or hospital provided that all sections of the Act are satisfied.

Such action was not necessary during 1971

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

TABLE 1 - LETCHWORTH

Inspection School Children 1971

Entrants	517
Last year Secondary Consultative	352
Number of special inspections	161
Number of re-inspections	631

Physical Condition of Pupils Inspected

Satisfactory	1,661

TABLE 11 - LETCHWORTH

B.C.G. Vaccination - 11 years and absentees from previous sessions

Number of children offered testing and vaccination if necessary	658
Number of acceptances	589
Percentage of acceptances	90.2%

Pre-Vaccination Tuberculin Test:

Number tested	567

Result of Test:

Number Positive	33
Number negative	511
Number not ascertained	23
Percentage Positive	0.43%
Percentage Negative	92.38%
Number Vaccinated	496

Note: The percentage of acceptances is most satisfactory; no adverse re-actions to B.C.G. vaccinations were reported during the year

The Consultant Paediatrician for the area, Dr. C.G. Fagg, is always available for consultation and I am indebted to him for his help during the year.

I would also acknowledge the help and co-operation from Dr. C. Firth - Consultant Geriatrician and Dr. B. Mallett - Consultant Psychiatrist

Dr. Roper has played a large part in the School Health Service and I am grateful to her also.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

The hosptial services for the area are administered by the North West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board with the Luton and Hitchin Hospital Management Committee. Addenbrooke's Hospital is administered by the United Cambridge Hcspitals.

GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

North Hertfordshire Hospital, Hitchin

Lister Hospital, Hitchin

Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge

MENTAL HOSPITAL

Fairfield Hospital, Stotfold

MATERNITY HOSPITAL SERVICES

North Hertfordshire Maternity Unit, Hitchin

CHEST CLINIC

Lister Hospital, Hitchin

LABORATORY SERVICES

Dr. A.T. Willis, Director, Public Health Laboratory, Luton and Dunstable Hospital, Lewsey Road, Luton, Beds.

Dr. G.R.E. Maylor, Director, Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1971

I have pleasure in presenting my fifth annual report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors.

The year has again been one of considerable activity and due to the pressure of work much of the routine work has had to be deferred and priority given to urgent matters.

During the year the Council completed 141 dwellings and 82 were completed for private owners.

Further progress was made in the improvement of older properties, 120 standard improvement grants were made and 12 discretionary grants made at an average cost per dwelling of £428.06. In addition 123 Council owned dwellings were improved at an average Council contribution per dwelling of £529.88.

The increased number of standard improvement grants made was mainly due to landlords applying for qualification certificates under the Housing Act 1969. To convert a controlled tenancy to a regulated tenancy and charge a higher rent a landlord must obtain a Fair Rent certificate from the Rent Officer. In order to qualify for this the Council, on the application of the landlord, must certify that the dwelling is provided with all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of its occupants and is in good repair, having regard to its age, character and locality.

The extra work involved placed a heavy burden on all members of the Department, but the only delays in the issue of the qualification certificates were due to difficulties in gaining access to the premises.

The premises occupied by Commonwealth and other foreign nationals were visited regularly and this has resulted in multi-occupation being kept under control. It was, however, found necessary to serve one Direction under Section 19 of the Housing Act 1961.

There were only a few cases of itinerant caravan dwellers reported in the district. In all the cases reported the caravans were stationed on the highway and the Police were able to effect their speedy removal. The Council's residential caravan site in Orchard Way was closed in July and the site cleared.

Work on enlarging an existing residential caravan site in the Hitchin Rural District Council's area commenced during the year and a site licence was issued to the site operator for that part of the enlarged site which is situated within the area of the Letchworth U.D.C. Ownership of the existing private caravan site changed during the year and the new owners applied for planning permission to enlarge the site but this was refused, and the owners' appeal to the Ministry against this decision has not yet been heard.

Following the receipt of Circular 53/71 from the Department of the Environment, which assured Local Authorities operating smoke control programmes that adequate supplies of solid smokeless fuel would be available, the Council decided to re-activate the smoke control programme and it is hoped to make a start on No. 3 Area in 1972.

The graphs show the reduction in smoke and SO2 recordings taken over the years 1964 to 1971. It will be noticed that the recordings show a consistent reduction in sulphur dioxide emissions, particularly the central station recordings. The probable explanation for this reduction is that many private houses have been converted to gas central heating and gas is a sulphur free fuel.

There was a considerable increase in the number of pigs slaughtered, a total of 127,354 compared to 100,322 in 1970. The number of cattle and sheep slaughtered declined and in September ceased altogether as a result of a change in policy by the Company. To ensure 100% inspection, it was necessary for some overtime to be worked, but with the co-operation of the management of the abattoir, it was kept to a minimum. The percentage of condemnations in all categories continued to decrease, tuberculosis infections in pigs have fallen to negligible proportions and no tuberculosis infections were found in cattle.

During the year the poultry processing plant closed and the business transferred to other premises in the London Area.

Milk and ice-cream and other food and drugs were sampled during the year under the Food and Drugs Act, and from a total of 104 samples, adverse reports were made by the Public Analyst in two cases.

A considerable number of complaints were received that articles of food purchased from retailers were out of condition, mouldy or contained matter foreign to the particular product. All these cases were fully investigated and when necessary, the matter was taken up with the retailer and/or manufacturer concerned.

There were four successful prosecutions all taken under section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, which resulted in fines totalling £105 being imposed on the defendants.

Some complaints were received of noise nuisance, both domestic and industrial, but all were of a minor character and only informal action was necessary.

Routine visits were made throughout the year to premises coming within the provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963, and various defects and omissions found were remedied. It can be said that the general standard is good.

Routine rodent control work was carried on throughout the year and I have to report that there was once again a considerable increase in the number of properties infested with rats and mice. A probable reason for the increase was the extensive demolition works carried out for the Town Centre Redevelopment Scheme.

There was also a large increase in the number of wasps nests destroyed, a total of 353 compared to a total of 153 for 1970.

Visits were made to all premises in which a licence to keep petroleum spirit had been granted to ensure that the conditions attached to the licence were being observed. One incident involving a minor leakage of petroleum spirit was reported but prompt action by the licencee prevented any risk to public safety.

The Department has had another busy year; new legislation continues to be made, resulting in the amount of work being continually increased and the scope widened. I would like to thank all members of the staff of the Department for their loyal support, and also the officers of all other Departments for their co-operation and assistance in matters of common interest.

R. H. Mann,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SERVICES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Water

(a) The water undertakers are Lee Valley Water Company, and the local supply is from deep wells in the chalk east of Letchworth. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

(b) The supply is sampled bacteriologically and chemically by the Company, the samples being taken systematically throughout the year. Check samples are taken every quarter by the Council's Consultant. The supply is subjected to chlorination treatment. The last report of the Company gave the fluoride content as less than 0.2ppm.

(c) There is no plumbo solvent action. The supplies from the private bores and wells are kept under observation and are sampled.

(d) With the exception of Roxley Court, two houses, a petrol filling station and a cafe at Jacks Hill to the south east, all the properties in the Urban District are provided with a direct piped supply of water from the Company's mains.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Work was completed on the extension to the sewage disposal works during the year.

Common Lodging Houses

There are none within the Urban District.

Public Cleansing

The whole of this work is carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor. The house refuse is disposed of by "Controlled tipping" in a tip at Holwell village in the Hitchin Rural District.

SERVICES UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus
- (i) Number of samples raw milk examined .. .. Nil
- (ii) Number of positive samples .. .. Nil
- (iii) Action taken .. .. Nil

(b) Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1965
- (i) Number of egg pasteurisation plants in district .. .. Nil

(c) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960
- (i) (a) The type of food premises in Letchworth are as follows:- Butchers* 20; cafes, refreshment houses and snack bars* 49; confectioners 65; dairies* 1; fish shops 6; greengrocers and fruiterers 20; grocers and provision merchants* 32; food warehouses 2; bacon factory and meat product manufacturers* 1; school canteens* 22; factory canteens serving snacks 29; serving main meals* 35.
- (i) (b) Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act; sale and manufacture of ice-cream 49; manufacture of sausage and meat products (preserved food) 19; registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959, distributors 4; two with premises outside the district.
- (ii) All premises are fitted to comply with Regulation 16.
- (iii) and (iv) Premises marked with an asterisk are fitted to comply with Regulation 19.

(d) Poultry Inspections - Processing

(i)	Number of premises	1
(ii)	Number of visits	17
(iii)	Total number processed	31,000
(iv)	Types: Hens and ducks	(approx.)
(v)	Percentage rejected	less than 1%
(vi)	Weight condemned	-
(vii)	Koshered but not eviscerated	-

Processing discontinued mid 1971.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Number of prosecutions under Section 2	4
Number of prosecutions under Section 8	-
Total amount of fines and costs imposed	£105

FOOD HYGIENE

(a)	Number of offences prosecuted under Food Hygiene (General) Regulations	-
(b)	Number of contraventions	73
(c)	Number of contraventions remedied	57
(d)	Number of visits and inspections	1132

Milk Supply

One dairy farm is registered by the Ministry of Agriculture and is licenced for the production of tuberculin tested milk. There are two milk retailers, one having premises within the Urban District. Both are licenced to retail tuberculin tested milk, pasteurised milk and sterilised milk. One is licence to pasteurise, and to bottle pasteurised and Channel Island (Pasteurised) mil This firm distributes milk by roundsmen throughout the area and sells bottled milk from two establishments in the town. Fifteen other shops sell bottled milk.

Milk Sampling

	UHT	Raw	Channel Island Pasteurised	Pasteurised	Sterilised	Total
Number taken	9	-	9	28	4	50
Colony Count Test:	8	-	-	-	-	8
Void	1	-	-	-	-	1
Methylene Blue Test:						
Number submitted	-	-	9	28	-	37
Satisfied	-	-	9	28	-	37
Failed	-	-	-	-	-	-
Void	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phosphatase test:						
Number submitted	-	-	9	28	-	37
Passed	-	-	9	28	-	37
Failed	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turbidity Test:						
Number submitted	-	-	-	-	4	4
Passed	-	-	-	-	4	4
Failed	-	-	-	-	-	-

Special Milk Samples

Number taken	Nil
Antibiotic	-
Biological	-

Ice Cream Sampling Grade	Mobiles I	II	III	IV	Premises I	II	III	IV	Void
Soft Ice Cream	-	-	-	-	16	0	2	-	-
Other Ice Cream	-	-	--	-	-	-	-	-	-

Food and Drugs Sampling

(i)

	Number of Samples		Unsatisfactory Reports		Legal Proceedings Instituted	Total number convictions secured
	Formal	Informal	Analysis	Labelling		
Foods	-	104	2	-	-	-
Drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-

(ii) Details of unsatisfactory samples:-

Foods	On Analysis	By Labelling
Minced beef with onion	1	-
Beefburgers	1	-

Food

(a) Meat Inspection

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	2387	85	86	2441	127354
Number not inspected	-	-	-	-	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	1	1	1	1	339
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	437	26	3	98	12409
Percentage	18.3	30.3	3.5	4.0	9.74
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	4
Percentage	-	-	-	-	0.003
Cysticerci:					
Number of cases	6	1	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

(b) Meat Specimens Examined

Number of meat specimens submitted to laboratories for pathological examinations .. .. -

(c) Unsound Food Surrendered or Condemned

	Tons	cwts.	lbs.
1. Meat at slaughterhouse	60	8	92
2. Meat at wholesale premises		4	10
3. Meat at retail premises		3	65
4. Cooked meat and meat products		2	58
5. Canned meats		2	29
6. Fish		1.	69
7. Fruit and vegetables		9	5
8. Other foods	1	4	94
Total	62	16	86

Condemnations at abattoir includod:-

2 Bovine Carcases	13147 lbs English pork
140 lbs English Beef	1 sheep carcase
2 fore quarters English Beef	1 fore quarter mutton
1 calf carcase	2 fore quarters English pork
339 pig carcases	9 hind quarters English pork

Slaughter of Animals

Applications for licences to slaughter animals	26
Number of licences granted to slaughtermen	26
Amount of fees received	£1.40.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

(i)

	Number on Register	Inspections
Non-mechanical factories	4	6
Mechanical factories	155	83
Building operations	18	18
Workplaces	3	6
Total	180	113

(ii)

Outworkers	3	6

(iii)

Defects found and remedied	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	2	2
Inadequate ventilation	1	-
Want of drainage of floors	-	-
Other nuisances	-	-
Sanitary accommodation; insufficient	-	-
Sanitary accommodation: unsuitable or defective	2	2
Other offences	-	-
Matters referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories	-	-
Matters referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

(i) Registrations and General Inspections:-

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving an inspection
Offices	4	64	54
Retail Shops	4	144	120
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	9	9
Catering establishments open to the public and canteens	-	20	20
Fuel storage depots	-	2	2
Totals	8	239	205

(ii) Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act 210

(iii) Reported Accidents:-

Workplace	Number reported	Total No. investigated	Prosecution	Action Recommended Formal Warning	Informal Advice	No Action
Offices	4	4	-	-	-	4
Retail Shops	2	2	-	-	-	2
Wholesale shops and warehouses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public and canteens	1	1	-	-	-	1
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	7	7	-	-	-	7

HOUSING

(i) During 1971 the following premises were erected and occupied:-

Council Schemes:-	
Houses and flats	141
Others:-	
Houses and flats	82
Total	223

(ii) Standard Improvement Grants

	Owner/ occupied	Tenanted	Council
Number of applications	6	112	-
Number granted	5	115	-

(iii) Discretionary Improvement Grants

	Owner/ occupied	Tenanted	Council
Number of applications	10	6	111
Number granted	6	6	111
Number of dwellings improved	7	18	123

Owner/occupied and tenanted
Amount paid in grants £10,715; average per house £428.06.

Council
Amount paid in grants £65,175; average per house £529.88.

Total number of visits and inspections 609

(iv) Housing Act 1969 - Qualification Certificates

Number of applications under Section 44(1) 95
Number of Qualification Certificates issued 38

Number of applications under Section 44(2) 76
Number ofCertificates of Provisional Approval issued 106
Number of Qualification Certificates issued .. .. -

Number of visits and inspections 234

HOUSES IN MULTI-OCCUPATION

Number of houses 82
Number of Directions issued under Section 19 1
Number of visits 1367

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Noise nuisances:-
Number of visits and investigations 19

Infectious Diseases:-
Visits and inspections - General 43
Visits and inspections - Food Poisoning 2

National Assistance Act, Section 47:-
Number of cases (no staturtory action) .. .. Nil
Number of visits .. .. Nil

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

This table is enclosed by a request of the Minister of Labour to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars which are required by Section 153 (1) of the Factories Act 1961, to be furnished in their annual reports with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of that Act which are administered by the Urban District Council.

Part I of the Act:-

(i) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities:	4	6	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority:	155	83	2	-
(c) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers' premises):	18	18	-	-
Total	177	107	2	-

(ii) Cases in which defects were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	Referred By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (s.4)	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
a. Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b. Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
c. Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	5	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act - Outwork - (Sections 110 and 111):-

Nature of Work	Number of outworkers in Aug. list required by S. 133 (1) (e)	Section 133: Number of cases of default in sending list to the Council	Section 133: Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Section 134: Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Section 134: Notices served	Section 134: Prosecutions
Wearing apparel: Making etc. cleaning and washing	4	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	-	-	-	-	-

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

(a) Domestic:-

(i) In operation at 31st December, 1965
Jackmans No. 1
Number of dwellings when estate complete 1599
Acreage covered 198

(ii) In operation at 1st December, 1966
Grange No. 2
Number of dwellings 1925
Acreage covered 905

(b) Industrial:-

(i) Dark Smoke
Number of contraventions recorded 4
(a) successful prosecutions .. .. -
(b) unsuccessful prosecutions .. .. -

(ii) Furnaces (Section 3)

(a) Notifications received	6
(b) Applications for prior approval	6
(c) Number of applications granted	6

(iii) Grit and dust emissions (Section 5)

(a) Number of contraventions	2
(b) Type of plant involved; electrical steel convertors	1

(iv) Height of chimneys

(a) Number of plans submitted showing new chimneys ..	6
(b) Number approved	6

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	10342	36
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	1100	6
(b) Number infested by		
Rats	860	6
Mice	240	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	-	-
(b) Number infested by		
Rats	-	-
Mice	-	-

Total number of visits re rodent inspection 1106

GAME LICENCES

Visits and inspection	1
Number of licences granted	5
Amount of fees received	£1.25

PET ANIMALS ACT

Visits and inspections	1
Number of contraventions found	-
Number of contraventions remedied	-
Number of licences granted	1

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

Visits and inspections	-
Number of licences in force	-

HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS - BY-LAWS

Visits and inspections	18
Number of contraventions found	-
Number of contraventions remedied	-

SHOPS ACTS (HOURS OF CLOSING ETC.)

Number of Shops on register	207
Visits and inspections	30
Number of contraventions found	2
Number of contraventions remedied	2

PETROLEUM ACTS

Visits and inspections	234
Number of contraventions found	22
Number of contraventions remedied	22
Number of licences granted; Petroleum spirit and mixtures	63
Amount of fees received	192

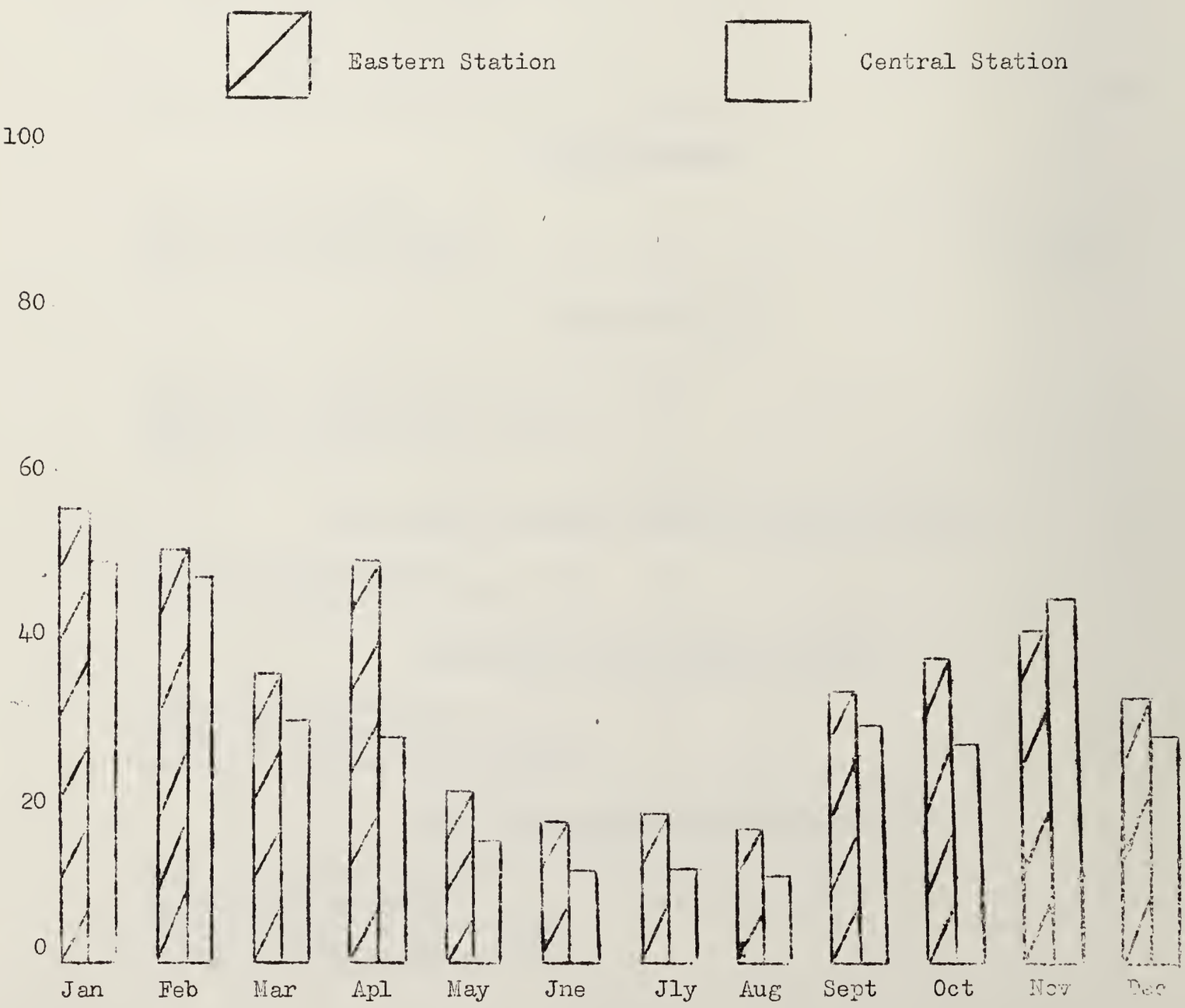
CARBIDE OF CALCIUM LICENCES

Number of licences granted	1
Amount of fees received	£8

SUSPENDED IMPURITIES SMOKE DENSITY VOLUMETRIC RECORDING CALCULATIONS

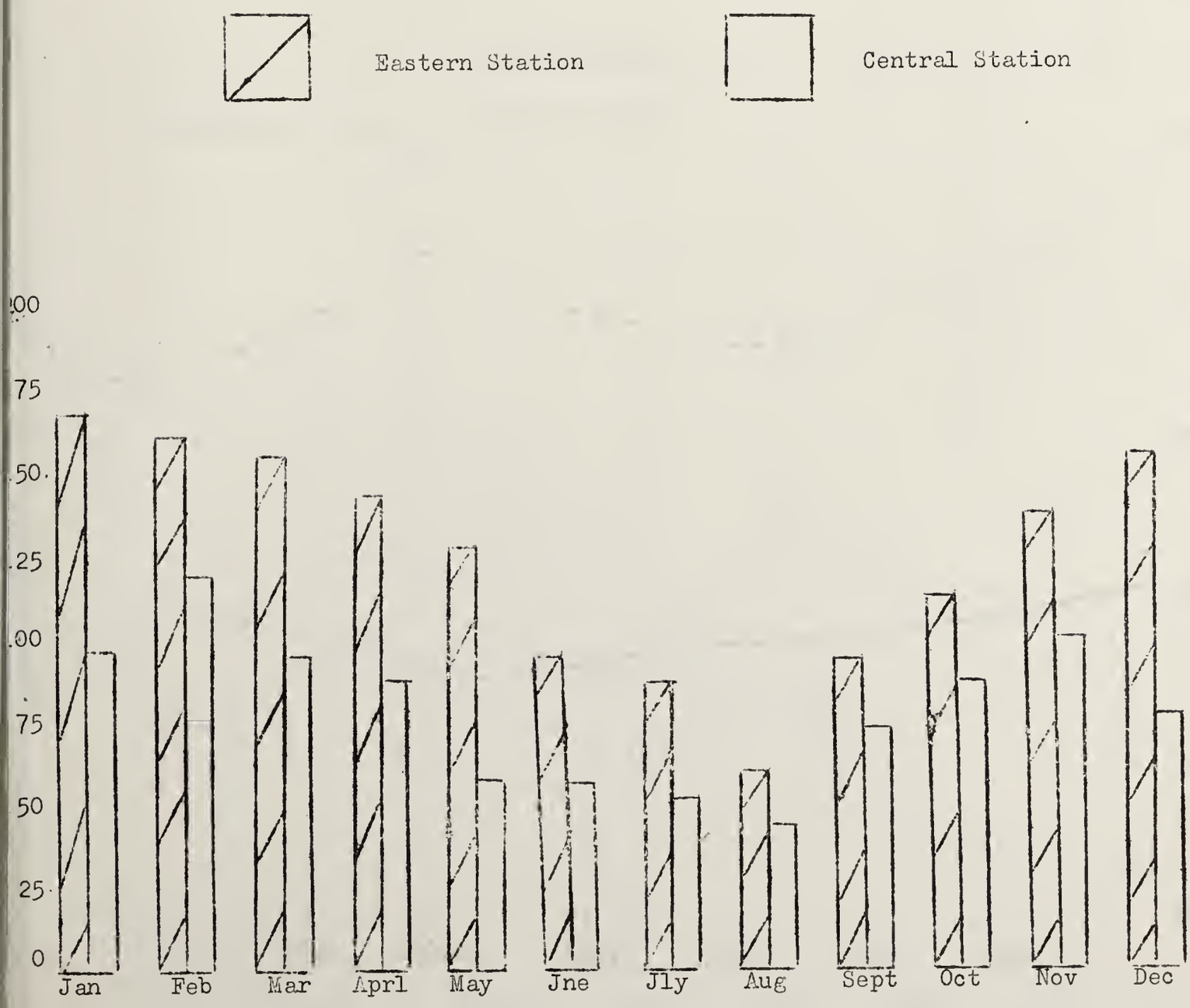
BY REFLECTOMETER IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE OF AIR

DAILY AVERAGE 1971



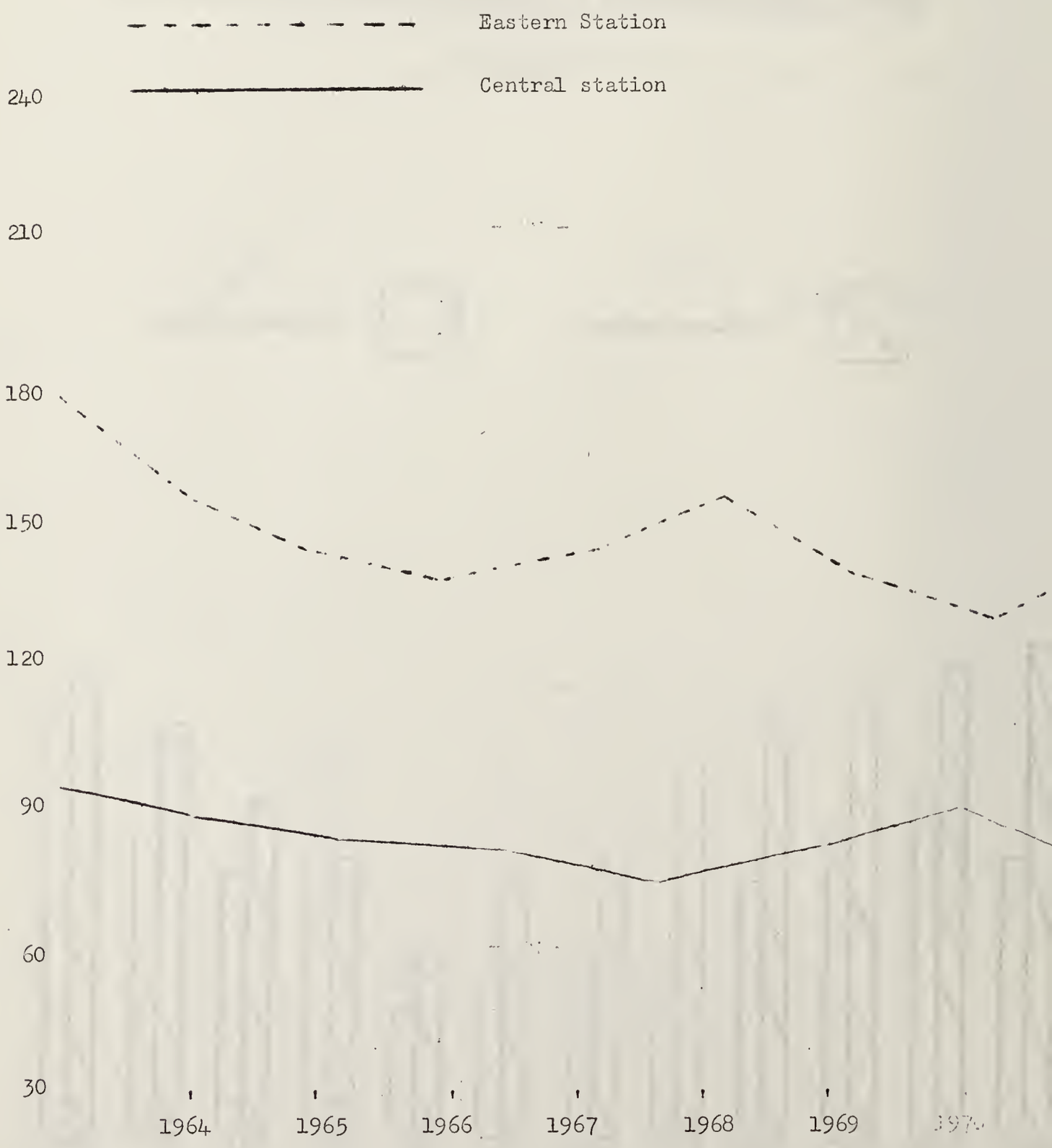
SULPHUR DIOXIDE RECORDINGS IN MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE OF AIR

1971



VOLUMETRIC SULPHUR DIOXIDE RECORDINGS IN MICROGRAMMES

AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE



VOLUMETRIC SMOKE RECORDING IN MICROGRAMMES

AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION MICROGRAMMES PER CUBIC METRE

SECTION "F"

PREVENTION & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases (Corrected) Letchworth - Age Distribution

Diseases	Total cases notified	Cases after correction	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 & over	Age unknown
Whooping Cough	12	-	2	1	1	1	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	386	-	10	28	27	69	52	187	8	3	2	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-
Totals	404	-	12	29	28	70	54	194	9	5	3	-	-	-

LETCHWORTH U.D.C. - TUBERCULOSIS.

No. on Register at 31st December, 1971.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	109	57	166
Non-Pulmonary	16	18	34
	126	75	200

No. removed from Register during 1971.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
Deaths	1	-	-	-	1
Others (cured, re-diagnosed, transfers of areas, et.)	2	-	1	-	3
	3	-	1	-	3

Additions to Register during 1971.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
New Notifications	5	2	1	-	8
Others (cases restored to register, transfers, etc.)	-	1	-	-	1
	5	3	1	-	9

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE
LIBRARY
14 AUG 1973
AND TROPICAL MEDICINE